

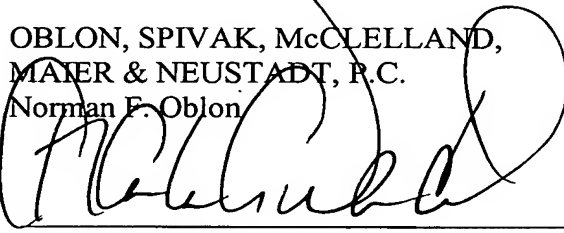
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to revise the claims along the lines of an Article 34 amendment submitted in the corresponding PCT counterpart application.

An early examination of Claims 1-26 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAYER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Charles A. Wendel, is written over the printed name and firm name.

Charles A. Wendel  
Registration No. 24,453

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 03/06)

NFO:CAW\law  
I:\ATTY\CW\292102US-PR.DOC